

Serial No. 10/056,089

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) An address data management method comprising:
 - acquiring address data from a purchaser wishing to purchase and have merchandise delivered, said acquiring storing a plurality of delivery addresses, including addresses of one or a plurality of non-purchasers;
 - establishing a respective unique address identification (ID) for each of said plurality of delivery addresses in said address data according to a request for issuing an address ID from said purchaser, said unique address IDs being invulnerable to reverse translation by a third party into said address data, and notifying said purchaser thereof;
 - managing a correspondence table indicating correspondence between said address data and said respective unique address IDs;
 - accepting delivery request data generated by a vendor of said merchandise based upon a delivery request from the said delivery request data including purchaser, said purchaser having given a the unique address ID as delivery address of either the purchaser or the non-purchaser;
 - looking up the unique address ID in said delivery request in said correspondence table, and extracting a corresponding one of said plurality of delivery addresses of the purchaser or non-purchaser in said address data; and
 - executing delivery processing of an article based on said extracted address data.

2. (Previously Presented) An address data management method according to claim 1, wherein at an elapse of a set length of time following establishment of said address ID, the corresponding address ID in said correspondence table is deleted.

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3. (Original) An address data management method according to claim 1, wherein an address ID corresponding to address data for which delivery processing has been executed a predetermined number of times is deleted from said correspondence table.

4. (Original) An address data management method according to claim 3, wherein an address ID corresponding to address data for which delivery processing has been executed once is deleted from said correspondence table.

5. (Previously Presented) An address data management method according to claim 1, further including accepting from said purchaser instructions to make said address ID invalid, and deleting the corresponding address ID in said table.

6. (Currently Amended) An address data management method comprising:
acquiring address data from a purchaser wishing to purchase and have merchandise delivered, said acquiring storing a plurality of delivery addresses, including addresses of one or a plurality of non-purchasers;
establishing a unique user account for identifying said purchaser and notifying said purchaser thereof;
managing a correspondence table showing the correspondence between said address data and user accounts;

in response to an inquiry from a vendor of merchandise that said purchaser wishes to purchase and have delivered, authenticating said purchaser using said purchaser's user account, establishing an address identification (ID) invulnerable to reverse translation to said address data by a third party, and notifying said vendor of said address ID;

accepting delivery request data generated by a vendor of said merchandise that includes said address ID for either the purchaser or the non-purchaser; and

executing delivery processing of an article based on address data corresponding to said address ID.

7. (Previously Presented) An address data management method according to claim 6, further comprising:

computing use points for said user account each time delivery processing is executed;
and

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awarding benefits to said user account based on the accumulated total of said use points.

8. (Previously Presented) An address data management method according to claim 6, further comprising transferring said delivery request data to said purchaser when delivery request data has been received from said vendor, and accepting confirmation information from said purchaser.

9. (Previously Presented) An address data management method according to claim 6, further comprising determining whether the address ID included in delivery request data received from said vendor is valid, and deciding whether to execute delivery processing of said article based on the results of said determination.

10. (Previously Presented) An address data management method according to claim 6, further comprising setting up benefits in advance to award to said vendor each time delivery request data is received from said vendor.

11. (Previously Presented) An address data management method according to claim 6, further comprising:

acquiring information relating to settlement method by said purchaser; and
settling accounts with said vendor based on information relating to settlement method upon receipt of delivery request data from said vendor.

12. (Currently Amended) An address data management system comprising:
address data acquisition ~~means-for-unit~~ acquiring address data from a purchaser wishing to purchase and have merchandise delivered, said address data acquisition means storing a plurality of delivery addresses, including addresses of one or a plurality of non-purchasers;
address identification (ID) establishment ~~means-for-unit~~ establishing a respective unique address ID for each of said plurality of said delivery addresses in said address data according to a request for issuing an address ID from said purchaser, said unique address IDs being invulnerable to reverse translation by a third party into said address data, and notifying said purchaser thereof;

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correspondence table management ~~means for~~unit managing a correspondence table indicating correspondence between said address data and said respective unique address IDs;

delivery request acceptance ~~means for~~unit accepting delivery request data generated by a vendor of said merchandise based upon a delivery request from ~~the said~~ delivery request data including at least one of purchaser, said purchaser having given a the unique address ID as delivery address of either the purchaser or the non-purchasers; and

delivery processing ~~means for~~unit looking up the unique address ID in said delivery request in said correspondence table, extracting a corresponding one of said plurality of delivery addresses of the purchaser or non-purchaser in said address data, and executing delivery processing of an article based on said extracted address data.

13. (currently amended) An address data management system method according to claim 12, wherein said correspondence table management ~~means~~unit deletes the corresponding address ID in said correspondence table when a set length of time has elapsed following establishment of said address.

14. (currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 12, wherein said correspondence table management ~~means~~unit deletes an address ID corresponding to address data for which delivery processing has been executed a predetermined number of times.

15. (currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 12, wherein said correspondence table management ~~means~~unit deletes an address ID corresponding to address data for which delivery processing has been executed once.

16. (currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 12, wherein said correspondence table management ~~means~~unit accepts from said purchaser instructions to make said address ID invalid, and deletes the corresponding address ID in said table.

17. (currently amended) An address data management system comprising:

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address data acquisition ~~means for unit~~ acquiring address data acquisition means storing a plurality of delivery addresses, including addresses of one or a plurality of non-purchasers, from a purchaser wishing to purchase and have merchandise delivered;

user account establishment ~~means for unit~~ establishing a unique user account for identifying said purchaser and notifying said purchaser thereof;

correspondence table management ~~means for unit~~ managing a correspondence table indicating correspondence between said address data and user account;

address identification (ID) establishment ~~means for unit~~, in response to an inquiry from a vendor of merchandise that said purchaser wishes to purchase and have delivered, authenticating said purchaser using said purchaser's user account, establishing an address ID invulnerable to reverse translation to said address data by a third party, and notifying said vendor of said address ID;

delivery request acceptance ~~means for unit~~ accepting delivery request data generated by a vendor of said merchandise, that includes said address ID for either the purchaser or the non-purchaser; and

delivery processing ~~means for unit~~ executing delivery processing of an article based on address data corresponding to said address ID.

18. (currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 17, further comprising:

use point management ~~means for unit~~ adding use points for said user account each time delivery processing is executed; and

benefit presentation ~~means for unit~~ awarding benefits to said user account based on the accumulated total of said use points.

19. (currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 17, further comprising request confirmation ~~means for unit~~ transferring said delivery request data to said purchaser when delivery request data has been received from said vendor, and accepting confirmation information from said purchaser.

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20. (currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 17, further comprising address ID determination ~~means for~~unit determining whether the address ID included in delivery request data received from said vendor is valid, and deciding whether to execute delivery processing of said article based on the results of said determination.

21. (currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 17, further comprising vendor benefit establishment ~~means for~~unit establishing benefits in advance to award to said vendor each time delivery request data is received from said vendor.

22. (currently amended) An address data management system according to claim 17, further comprising:

settlement information acquisition ~~means for~~unit acquiring information relating to settlement method from said purchaser; and

settlement ~~means for~~unit settling accounts with said vender based on information relating to said settlement method, upon receipt of delivery request data from said vendor.

23. (Currently Amended) An address data management method, comprising:
storing a plurality of delivery addresses as address data from a purchaser, including addresses of one or a plurality of non-purchasers;

establishing a respective unique address identification (ID) invulnerable to reverse translation by a third party into said address data for each of said plurality of delivery addresses according to request for issuing the address ID from the purchaser and notifying said purchaser thereof;

accepting delivery request data generated by a vendor of said merchandise based upon a delivery request from the said delivery request data including purchaser, said purchaser having given a the unique address ID as delivery address of either the purchaser or the non-purchaser;

determining a corresponding one of said plurality of delivery addresses in said address data based on said address ID; and

delivering an article to said corresponding one of said plurality of delivery addresses.